

OPERATIONAL CONTROL DEVICE FOR JET PROPULSION WATERCRAFT

Abstract of the Disclosure

A jet propulsion unit for a small watercraft includes a reverse thrust arrangement. The reverse thrust arrangement includes a water diverter bucket assembly moveable between an open position and a closed position with respect to a steering nozzle of the jet propulsion unit. An idle speed of the watercraft's engine can be manually and/or automatically adjusted between a low engine idle speed and a high engine idle speed. The lower engine idle speed allows comfortable shifting maneuvers. The higher engine idle speed provides for tighter turning when the throttle is released. The engine cannot be started unless the reverse thrust arrangement is in a partially open position.